

the information necessary to consolidate and eliminate these wasteful and redundant programs.

Unfortunately, HUD has a long way to go toward effectively implementing GPRA. The HUD IG recently found that the department is just beginning to develop an agencywide strategic plan, the key underpinning and starting point for the process of goal-setting and performance measurements under GPRA. The IG report also indicated that HUD staff felt that the initial plans were developed only by a few of the Department's staff and did not involve input from a broad range of HUD offices. Given the need for broad acceptance of performance measures and established deadlines for implementing GPRA, I hope the new Secretary will take steps to ensure the integrity and successful implementation of GPRA at HUD.

GPRA is dependent on sound financial management—something that HUD is lacking. One of the reasons for GAO's designation of HUD as a high-risk area is its poorly integrated, ineffective, and generally unreliable information and financial management systems. These systems do not meet program managers' needs and provide inadequate control over HUD's housing and community development programs. HUD must get better control over its finances and prepare timely financial statements as required by the CFO Act.

Good financial data relies upon the development of effective computer systems and these systems are crucial to HUD's ability to meet its housing mission and business needs. In recent years, the Department has obligated over \$170 million annually to activities related to information management. Yet HUD has had a poor history of managing its information resources, and as a result, is struggling with aging systems that do not adequately meet the agency's needs and are contributing causes of managerial inadequacies.

In response to its problems, HUD has undergone dramatic structural changes. In September 1995, HUD completed a major field reorganization which was intended to eliminate previously confused lines of authority, enhance communications, reduce levels of review and approval, and improve customer service. In January 1996, HUD announced additional plans to reduce headquarters staff and further streamline its field organization by, among other things, closing up to 10 of HUD's 81 field offices by the end of fiscal year 1997. However, it is questionable whether these changes have turned the tide as GAO has found that the Department still has an ineffective organizational structure.

The situation is not hopeless. HUD has made some progress in recent years addressing these Departmentwide management deficiencies, but success will require top-down management support. I hope Secretary-designate Cuomo will

articulate a management vision that can improve operations at HUD and take measures required to take the agency off GAO's and Congress' high-risk list. I look forward to working with him to achieve those objectives in this Congress and to effectively implement the bipartisan management reforms passed by Congress in recent years.

THE PRESIDENT'S CERTIFICATION ON INTERNATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, on Friday, January 31, the President submitted to the Congress a certification that merits the support of all Members of Congress who wish to see improvements in the quality of life of women and families around the world.

The President has certified that the restrictions imposed by Congress in the fiscal year 1997 appropriations legislation are "having a negative impact on the functioning of the population planning program." Congress's approval of that certification would allow fiscal year 1997 family planning funds to be released at a rate of 8 percent per month beginning March 1 rather than July 1. Population programs around the world have not received any U.S. fiscal year 1997 funding even though the fiscal year began October 1, 1996, so approval of this resolution would simply reduce the delay of the funds' release from 9 months to 5.

U.S. contributions to family planning programs have immeasurably improved the lives of women in developing countries. The ability to plan the size of one's family is essential if women and children are to live longer and healthier lives and if women are to make the educational and economic gains they and we wish to see.

The Rockefeller Foundation released a report last week documenting the effectiveness of the family planning programs the United States supports. The report noted that the percentage of women in developing countries using contraception in the past three decades has grown from 10 to 50 percent, and the average number of children they have borne has dropped from 6 to 3.

Mr. President, there is a growing clamor that Congress is about to cast its first abortion vote of the 105th Congress when it votes on the President's certification. Nothing could be further from the truth. The truth is that Congress voted to cut U.S. contributions to population planning programs by 35 percent from fiscal year 1995 to fiscal year 1997 and then imposed a series of harsh metering requirements on the rate at which the money could be spent. This vote would simply remove one of the harshest requirements—that the funding be delayed by an additional 4 months.

It is tragic that the impact of these cutbacks and restrictions has been to increase the number of abortions. At a time when the number of women of

childbearing age is increasing by 2.3 percent, or 24 million, per year, the United States is reducing its commitment to programs that reduce the incidence of abortion.

The close relationship between family planning and abortion is clear. In Russia, for example, the Russian Department of Health reports that the use of contraceptives grew from 19 to 24 percent between 1990 and 1994 with the establishment of 50 International Planned Parenthood Federation affiliates across Russia. During that time period, the number of abortions performed dropped from 3.6 to 2.8 million. In Colombia and Mexico, USAID has long been a major donor to their family planning programs. In Bogota, a one-third increase in use of all forms of contraception between 1976 and 1986 accompanied a 45-percent drop in the abortion rate. In Mexico City and the surrounding region, the use of all forms of contraception increased 24 percent between 1987 and 1992, while the abortion rate fell 39 percent.

Helping to provide women with the means to prevent pregnancy is a far better alternative than contributing to a situation in which they must choose between bringing a child into the world for whom they too often have neither the physical nor financial means to care, and obtaining an abortion that is often illegal and unsafe. No woman wants to face that choice.

The statistics clearly document this problem. UNICEF's 1996 "The Progress of Nations" reported that each year, 600,000 women die of pregnancy-related causes, 75,000 of them associated with self-induced, unsafe abortions. These women leave behind at least 1 million motherless children. In addition, an estimated 34,000 children under age 5 in developing countries die every day—a number that would surely decline if mothers were able to space the births of their children to improve the health and nutrition they can provide them.

I urge my colleagues to support this Presidential certification to reduce the most onerous restrictions on U.S. contributions to international family planning programs when it comes up for a vote this month.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE CLEAR CREEK COMPOSITE BRIDGE

Mr. FORD. Mr. President, today, I wish to extend my congratulations to the University of Kentucky, the Kentucky Transportation Center, the Great Lakes Composite Consortium, the U.S. Forest Service, and other composites manufacturers on the completion of the Clear Creek Composite Bridge in Bath County, KY, located in the Daniel Boone National Forest. This pedestrian bridge is the first of its kind in the world, and the successful creation of this bridge stems from a creative design, and a great deal of research.

The Clear Creek Bridge is a 60-foot composite bridge, which is lightweight,

maintenance free, and most importantly, unobtrusive in its environment. Dr. Issam E. Harik, a professor of civil engineering, along with graduate students Pete Szak and Brad Robson of the University of Kentucky, were the research team that designed and constructed this visually appealing and structurally sound bridge.

The research and development of the technology which allowed the construction of this pedestrian bridge are essential for a competitive and strong economy, particularly with respect to the use of composite materials. The lightweight, maintenance-free bridges of the future are a welcomed change to current engineering practices, which will save taxpayers money.

Construction material and maintenance costs surrounding today's infrastructure needs are significant, and increasing rapidly. Particularly in this year, as Congress begins discussion of the reauthorization of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, it is important to identify new processes which will allow the Nation to maintain our roadways and bridges at a more affordable rate than is currently possible.

It is my understanding that a major reason for the creation of this pedestrian bridge was to validate the concept of construction of composite vehicular bridges. I encourage the dedicated engineers who worked on this project to remain committed to their research and it is my hope that the people of Kentucky and throughout the country, will be driving over composite bridges sometime in the very near future. These will truly be the bridges of and to, the 21st century.

Other special recognition goes to Northwestern University in Evanston, IL; the Morison Molded Fiber Glass Co. of Bristol, VA; Owens Corning of Toledo, OH; Ashland Chemical in Columbus, OH, and Zoltek Corp. of St. Louis, MO. This is an example of the private sector, universities, and Federal Government working together to form a strong and successful partnership.

I commend and thank the University of Kentucky team and U.S. Forest Service for their determination and hard work in building this historic bridge. Outdoor enthusiasts from communities all over the Commonwealth of Kentucky will now be better connected to the wilderness.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Texas is recognized.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. I thank the Chair. (The remarks of Mrs. HUTCHISON pertaining to the introduction of Senate

Resolution 49 are located in today's RECORD under "Submission of concurrent and Senate resolutions.")

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from Missouri, the Chair asks unanimous consent that the quorum call be rescinded.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 12:30 p.m. having arrived, the Senate will now stand in recess until the hour of 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:31 p.m., recessed until 2:14 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer [Mr. COATS].

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, in his capacity as a Senator from the State of Indiana, suggests the absence of a quorum.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I make a parliamentary inquiry.

Are we under specific orders at this point?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is informed that at 2:45 p.m. today the Senate will, in accordance with the previous order, move to Senate Resolution 47 offered by the Senator from Maine, for herself and the Senator from Maryland, and that debate will proceed for the next 40 minutes.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I will just speak for maybe a minute or so.

TRIBUTE TO ANNE DIBBLE JORDAN

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it is easy for both elected officials and commentators to refer to all knowledge as residing outside the beltway.

It has been my experience that some of the greatest wealth of knowledge, experience, and ability represented in this country is inside the beltway. Rarely enough does that talent get recognized.

An exception, is the recognition in the Washington Post of the extraordinary talent of Anne Dibble Jordan. Mrs. Jordan was the cochair of the last Presidential inaugural of the 20th century.

It is my privilege to know this extraordinary woman and her noted husband, Vernon Jordan. Anne Jordan is one of those people who makes it possible for Washington and our Govern-

ment to present a face worth seeing by the rest of the world. In fact for those who have come to know her, it is hard to think of anything she could not achieve.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Washington Post, Jan. 18, 1997]

THE WOMAN BEHIND THE CURTAIN—MONDAY IS ANN JORDAN'S BIG DAY—YOU WON'T EVEN KNOW SHE'S THERE

(By Roxanne Roberts)

It's the middle of a news conference at the Foreign Press Center. Ann Dibble Jordan and Terry McAuliffe, the chairmen of the Presidential Inaugural Committee sit on a stage briefing dozens of reporters from around the world about the seemingly endless list of celebratory events.

McAuliffe pops off with enthusiastic sound bites, jumping in to answer virtually every question. Jordan sits quietly, carefully offering written remarks. If there were an award for the inaugural chairman with the lowest possible profile, Jordan would win—hands down.

Her face is dominated by her red-framed glasses. She wears simple gold jewelry, a plain black dress and carries an inexpensive Le Sportsac purse.

"I hate interviews. I hate publicity," she says later. "My husband tells me I'm the most private person he knows."

Herein lies the intriguing contradiction of Ann Jordan: a very private person who lives a very public life. Her husband is the much-respected and much-feared lawyer Vernon Jordan, power broker extraordinaire. The Jordans are on the A-list of every Washington social event, serve on numerous corporate and charitable boards, and count a vast number of powerful people as friends—including the president and first lady. Indeed, Vernon Jordan is a favorite golfing buddy of Bill Clinton; the couples are so close they had Christmas Eve dinner together.

Shortly after the election, Clinton picked up the telephone and called Ann Jordan. "I need your help," said the president, who asked that she accept the unpaid co-chairmanship. It was an offer she couldn't refuse.

"I didn't think I'd be doing all of this, I tell you," she says. "I thought I'd just be a worker. But I had worked in the previous inaugural, and I'd seen a lot of the things that probably would be helpful in doing this."

Jordan, 62, came aboard just before Thanksgiving, with an eye to creating a structure that was "open and honest." This year, there are no fund-raising responsibilities, so the job of chairman is primarily one of oversight: meetings every morning to go over all the plans, defining goals, and signing off on major decisions and expenditures. When a final decision had to be made, said committee members, it was often Jordan whose judgment carried the day.

And there are also news conferences—Jordan's least favorite part of the job.

"She doesn't crave the limelight," says co-chairman McAuliffe. "She's just been a joy to work with. She and I have not had one disagreement in the past two months."

"I am absolutely, totally impressed and in awe of her," says Harold Ickes, who is coordinating inaugural plans from the White House. "It is not unusual for someone of her social position to take the job and be sort of honorary about it, sweeping in and out. She does not throw her weight around, although—God knows—she knows *everyone* in